



April 2000

THE LATEST NEWS IN THE WORLD OF ECF

SELF-SELECTED HEARING DATES IN ECF CASES

ELECTRONIC ACCESS TO JUDGE MASSEY'S HEARING DATES

On April 10th, Judge Massey posted the following message on the Court's web site.

"In cases filed electronically and in any case filed on or after January 1, 2000, whether a paper case or a fully electronic case, attorneys for movants may select the hearing date and time on which the motion will be heard from a list of available hearing dates and times without having to communicate with or obtain the permission of Chambers. If these procedures are used, the attorney must serve and file a notice of hearing with a certificate of service (all of which should be in one document with the motion)."

In addition to the above message, the site contains specific instructions on this new process. To view this information, access the Court's web site at <http://www.ganb.uscourts.gov/>. Once you are at the site, select the item titled "Chambers" directly under the Court Seal. At that point you will see a listing of all Judges. Select Judge Massey, and a

hyperlink will appear on the right side of the screen that says, "**Self-Selecting Hearing Dates In ECF Cases, Including All Cases Filed in 2000.**" When you click on that hyperlink, the instructions will be displayed. It should be noted that this includes Judge Massey's cases in both the Rome and Atlanta Divisions.

This is a very innovative and exciting approach to the assignment of hearing dates.

PROPER CONFIRMATION OF ATTORNEY'S SIGNATURE

We continue from time to time to receive electronic documents that do not have the **"/s"** designation on the signature line. The Court's General Order (which can be printed from the Court's web site), outlines the proper way to indicate a signature. Page 3 of the Administrative Procedures, attached to the order, gives instructions in this area.

You can also view the signature line on page 7 of the Order to see how Chief Judge Cotton's signature is indicated.

USE OF SCROLLING WHEEL ON SCREENS WITHIN ECF

We have discovered that when a screen contains a pick list, some errors have occurred whenever the user takes advantage of the scrolling wheel on the mouse. It only causes an error whenever the cursor moves over the pick list. When that is done, the selection that has already been made on that pick list is changed.

Continue to use the scrolling wheel, but make sure that it doesn't cross over any pick lists.

ATTORNEY/TRUSTEE GUIDE

In the last issue of this newsletter we discussed an update of the attorney/trustee guide. This guide is still not in a final format. However, we are using the guide with the ongoing training of new participants. We feel the guide provides some benefits to the user while we are still providing the hands-on training that each of you received.

If you would like a copy of the guide while it is still in a draft form, please contact Brenda Peek at (404) 215-1196, and we will provide you with a copy.

AMERICAN EXPRESS

Most of you already know, but in case you haven't received the word, we can now accept the American Express credit card. We know that many of you have been waiting for this option.

You can access the appropriate

authorization form from the Court's web site. Print a copy of the form, complete the necessary information, and mail or otherwise deliver it to Gary Drake at the Clerk's Office.

MARCH STATISTICS

The following table shows the number of paperless cases filed in each division in March, 2000.

Division	Total # of Cases Filed	Total # of Paperless Cases	Percent of Paperless Cases
Atlanta	2048	181	8.8%
Gainesville	209	18	8.6%
Newnan	313	52	16.6%
Rome	367	99	26.9%

VISTA EYECARE, INC. - CHAPTER 11 CASES (00-65214 -JB)

It is anticipated that the Vista Eyecare, Inc. cases that were filed by Kilpatrick Stockton, LLP, will become an ECF case in the very near future.

The Clerk's office is working with the firm to provide them with the necessary training. Within a short period of time, all documents filed in this large case will be accessible on-line.

